Archie
ADVENTURE SERIES
NO. 126
US $2.19
SEGA
SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG
"TOSSED IN SPACE" BEGINS HERE!
FEATURING THE RETURN OF SUPER SONIC!
PLUS: BEHIND THE SCENES MAYHEM IN AN EXTENDED "OFF-PANEL" BACK-UP!
DIRECT EDITION

When the alien Xorda threatened all life on planet Mobius, Sonic the Hedgehog was forced to team up with his worst enemy, Doctor Robotnik! Though successful, they could not prevent the activation of the Quantum Dial, a weapon capable of wiping out the entire Mobian solar system. Only Sonic possessed the power to destroy the Dial, and although it was believed that the effort would cost him his life, he acted anyway, making a heroic sacrifice.

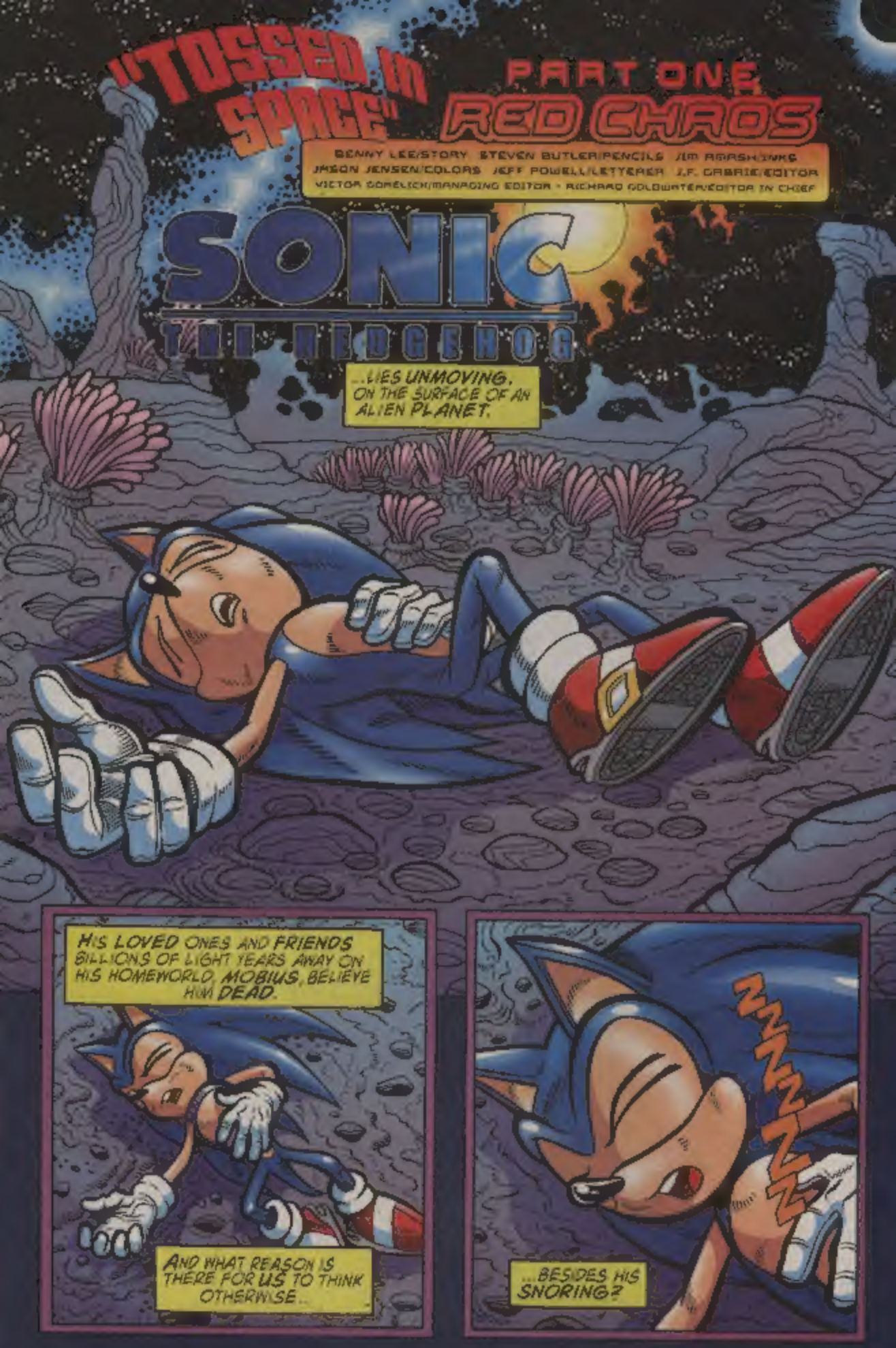
Now, his loved ones believe him dead, but in reality, Sonic has been propelled to a far and distant galaxy!

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG (issn 1079580X), No. 126, Oct., 2003. Published every 4 weeks, twice in March by Archie Comic Publications, Inc., 325 Fayette Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-2318. Richard H. Goldwater, President and Co-Publisher, Michael I. Silberklat, Chairman and Co-Publisher. Single copies $2.19 in the U.S.; $2.59 in Canada. Subscription rate: U.S. $39.47 for 12 issues; $33.67 in Canada. All Canadian orders payable in U.S. funds. SEGA, Sonic The Hedgehog, and all related characters and indicia are either registered trademarks or trademarks of SEGA CORPORATION © 1991-2003. SEGA CORPORATION and SONICTEAM, LTD./SEGA CORPORATION © 2001-2003. All Rights Reserved. The product is manufactured under license from Sega of America, Inc., 650 Townsend St., Ste. 650, San Francisco, CA 94103 www.sega.com. Any similarities between characters, names, persons, and/or institutions in this book and any living, dead, or fictional characters, names, persons, and/or institutions are not intended and if they exist, are purely coincidental. Periodicals postage paid at the post office at Mamaroneck, New York and at additional mailing offices. Title registered in U.S. patent office. POSTMASTER: send address changes to SONIC THE HEDGEHOG, c/o Archie Comic Publications, Inc., 325 Fayette Avenue, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-2318. Printed in Canada

"TOSSED IN SPACE" PART ONE RED CHAOS

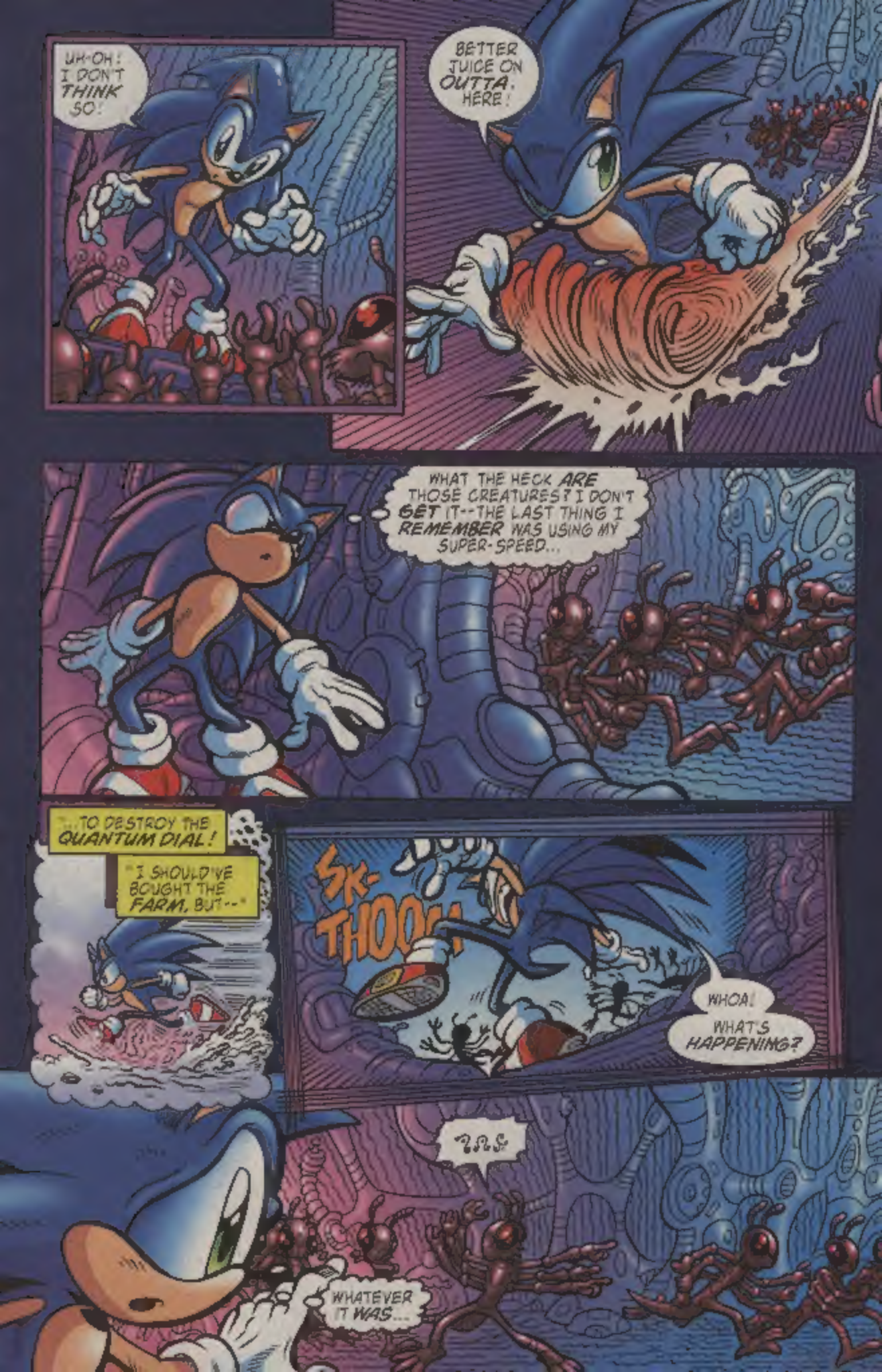
BENNY LEE/STORY STEVEN BUTLER/PENCILS JIM ABRASH/INKS
JASON JENSEN/COLORS JEFF POWELL/LETTERER J.F. GABRIE/EDITOR
VICTOR GORELICK/MANAGING EDITOR • RICHARD GOLDWATER/EDITOR IN CHIEF

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG

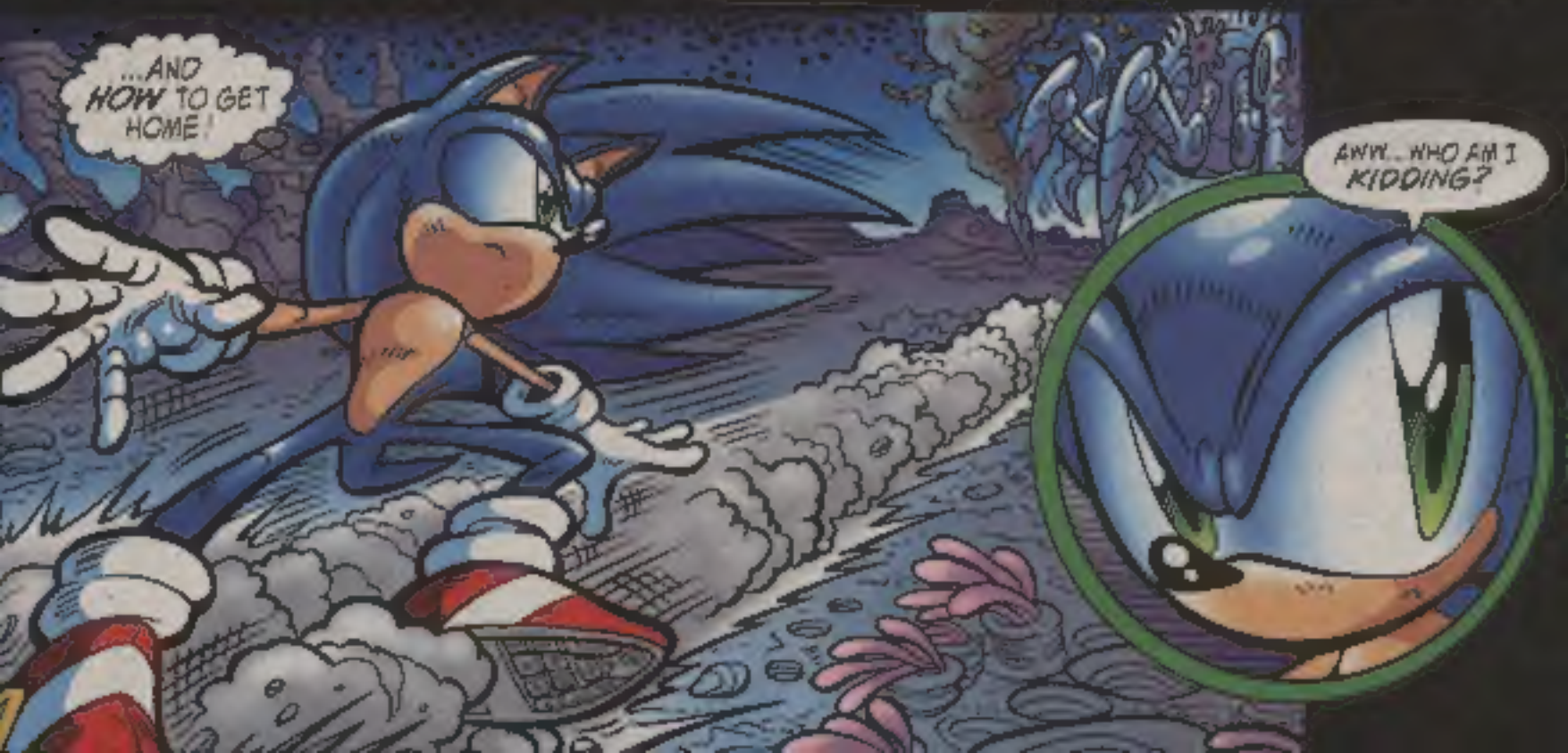


SUDDENLY, THE SLUMBERING HERO IS BATHED BY AN EERIE LIGHT...

...AND SUCKED UP INTO THE MYSTERIOUS CONFINES OF A STRANGE VESSEL!


UH-OH! I DON'T THINK SO!
BETTER JUICE ON OUTTA HERE!
WHAT THE HECK ARE THOSE CREATURES? I DON'T GET IT--THE LAST THING I REMEMBER WAS USING MY SUPER-SPEED...
...TO DESTROY THE QUANTUM DIAL!
"I SHOULD'VE BOUGHT THE FARM, BUT--"
SK-THOOM
WHOA! WHAT'S HAPPENING?
?!?!
WHATEVER IT WAS...

...S ENOUGH TO MAKE THOSE CREATURES FORGET ABOUT ME FOR THE MOMENT!



SOK
THWOK
WHAM
BAM
AND THE WINNER IS...
...ME!
UH-OH! IS THIS THE PART WHERE I BECOME BRUNCH?
THANK YOU, BLUE-FRIEND.
HEY, I CAN HEAR YOU IN MY MIND! IN ENGLISH!
HOW?
WE ACCESSED YOUR THOUGHTS TO LEARN YOUR LANGUAGE.
UHH... NEAT! WHERE ARE WE GOING?
TO OUR CITY. COME...

...IT ISN'T VERY FAR.
SO YOU'RE TELLING ME I'M ON A PLANET CALLED THORAXIA...
...AND YOU'VE NEVER HEARD OF MOBIUS?
WE'RE SORRY, SONIC, BUT WE BLODEX ARE INCAPABLE OF AIR OR SPACE TRAVEL.
OUR MORTAL ENEMIES, THE BZZZZ-- WHOM YOU EARLIER FOUGHT...
...BELIEVE THAT THEY ARE THE ONLY ONES ENTITLED TO FLIGHT-- OR LIFE.
HOWEVER A D'NOVULAN TRADING VESSEL WILL ARRIVE HERE TOMORROW.
IT CAN TAKE YOU TO WORLDS WITH TRANS-SPATIAL CAPABILITIES AND THEREBY INCREASE YOUR CHANCES OF GETTING HOME.
UNTIL THEN...
...YOU'RE OUR GUEST.
WHERE TO NOW SONIC?
GEE, DEEBLE, I DUNNO. I'VE NEVER HAD A GUIDED TOUR OF AN ALIEN CITY... OR AN ALIEN TOUR GUIDE!
WELL, I'VE NEVER GIVEN A TOUR TO A...?
HEDGEHOG. I'M A--

HOLY HECK! TH-THAT-- THAT--

THE STATUE OF AYPEX...? OUR ANCIENT CHAMPION?

YEAH, THOSE EMERALDS HE'S HOLDING LOOK LIKE THE CHAOS EMERALDS BACK ON MY HOMEWORLD, BUT INSTEAD OF BEING GREEN...

...THEY'RE RED! WHAT'S THE DEAL?

WELL, LEGEND SAYS THEY FELL FROM THE SKY...

...AND GAVE AYPEX THE POWER TO DESTROY THE ANCIENT BZZZZ QUEEN. FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS WE WERE SAFE...

...BUT NOW THE BZZZZ ARE BACK. YOU SHOULD REMAIN HERE ON THORAXIA AND BE OUR NEW DEFENDER, SONIC.

SORRY, DEEBLE, BUT I'VE GOTTA GET BACK TO MOBIUS. EVERYONE I CARE ABOUT IS THERE...

...AND, EVEN WORSE, THEY PROBABLY THINK I BIT THE DUST!

LATER, LONG AFTER DEEBLE'S TOUR...
I MEAN, HOW DID I WIND UP ON SOME OTHER PLANET, IN SOME OTHER GALAXY, ANYWAY?
AND WHAT IF I'M LOST IN SPACE FOREVER?
NO WAY! I'M GONNA GET ON THAT SHIP TOMORROW AND FIND A WAY HOME...EVEN IF I DIE TRYING.
:YAAWWNN: ANYWAY, I'D BETTER CRASH.
BZZZZZZ
WHAT'S THAT SOUND?
WELL, THERE GOES MY BEAUTY REST!

THE BZZZZ ARE IN STRAIGHT UP ATTACK MODE

AND HER QUEEN TAGGED ALONG TO MAKE SURE HEY DID THE JOB RIGHT!

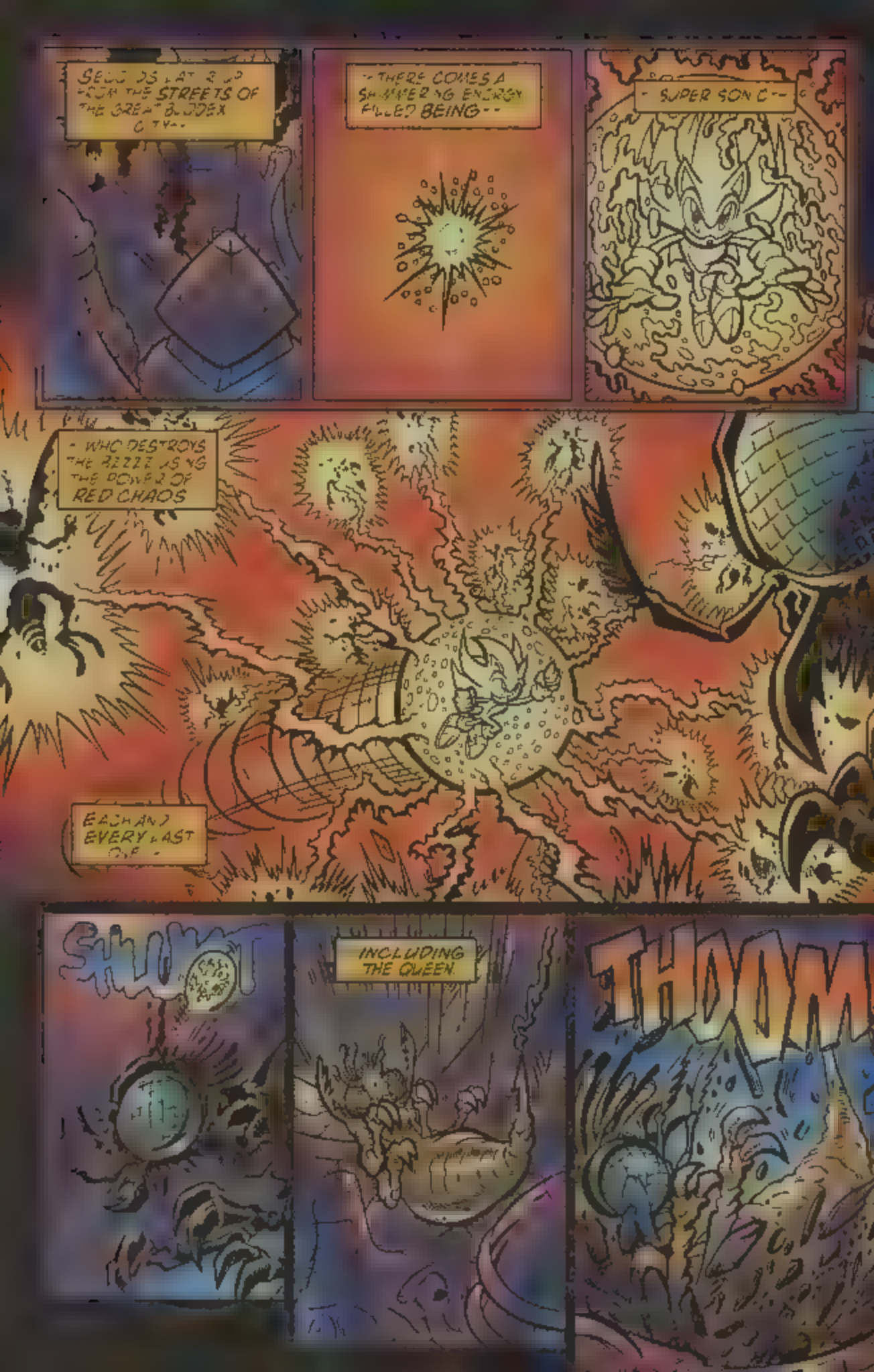
I'VE GOT A DO SOMETHING BUT THERE'S TOO MANY OF EM--I'M OUTNUMBERED!

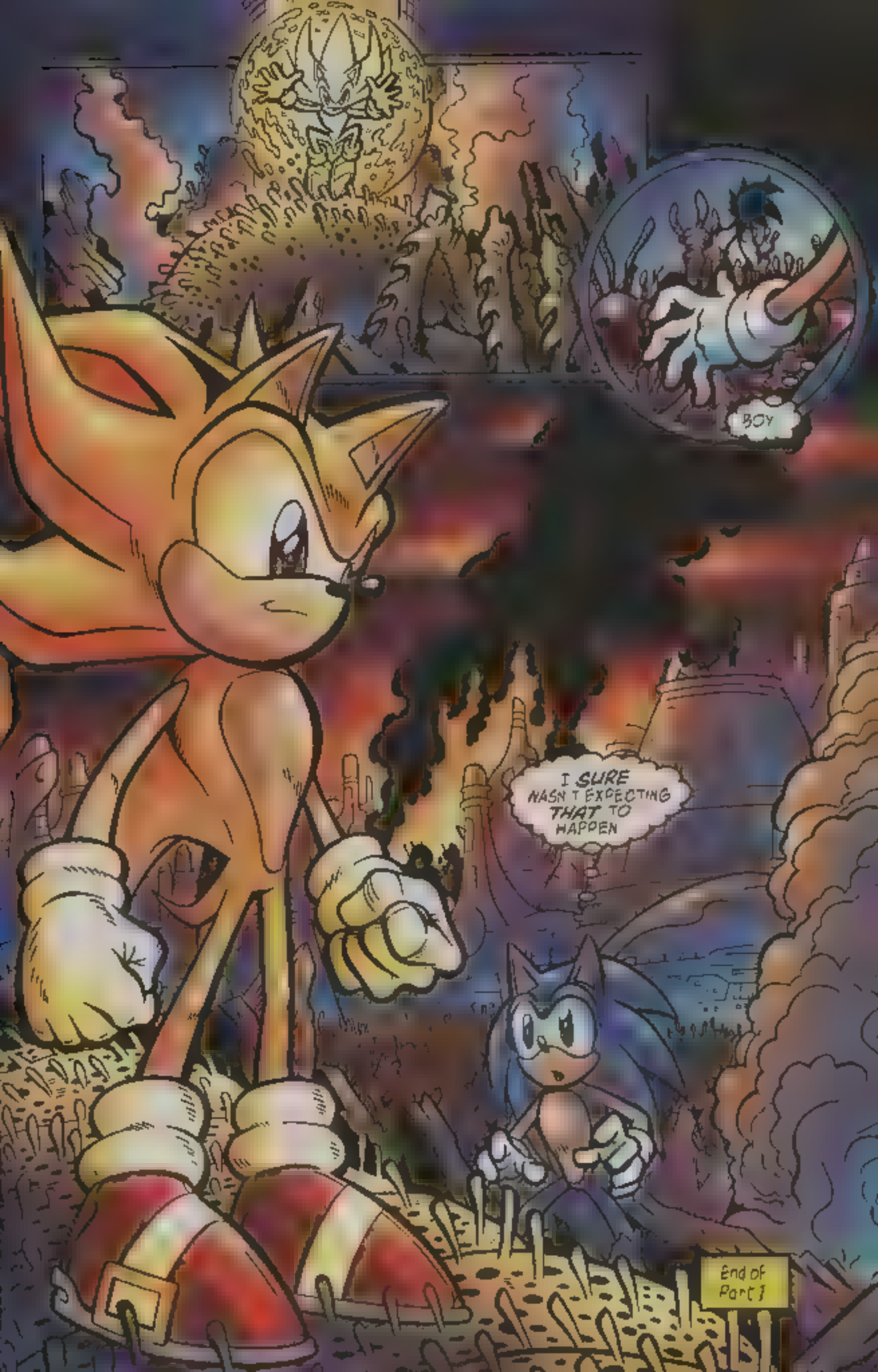
RUN! AVOID THE QUEEN'S STINGER--

HER TOXIN CAN MELT THROUGH ANY SUBSTANCE

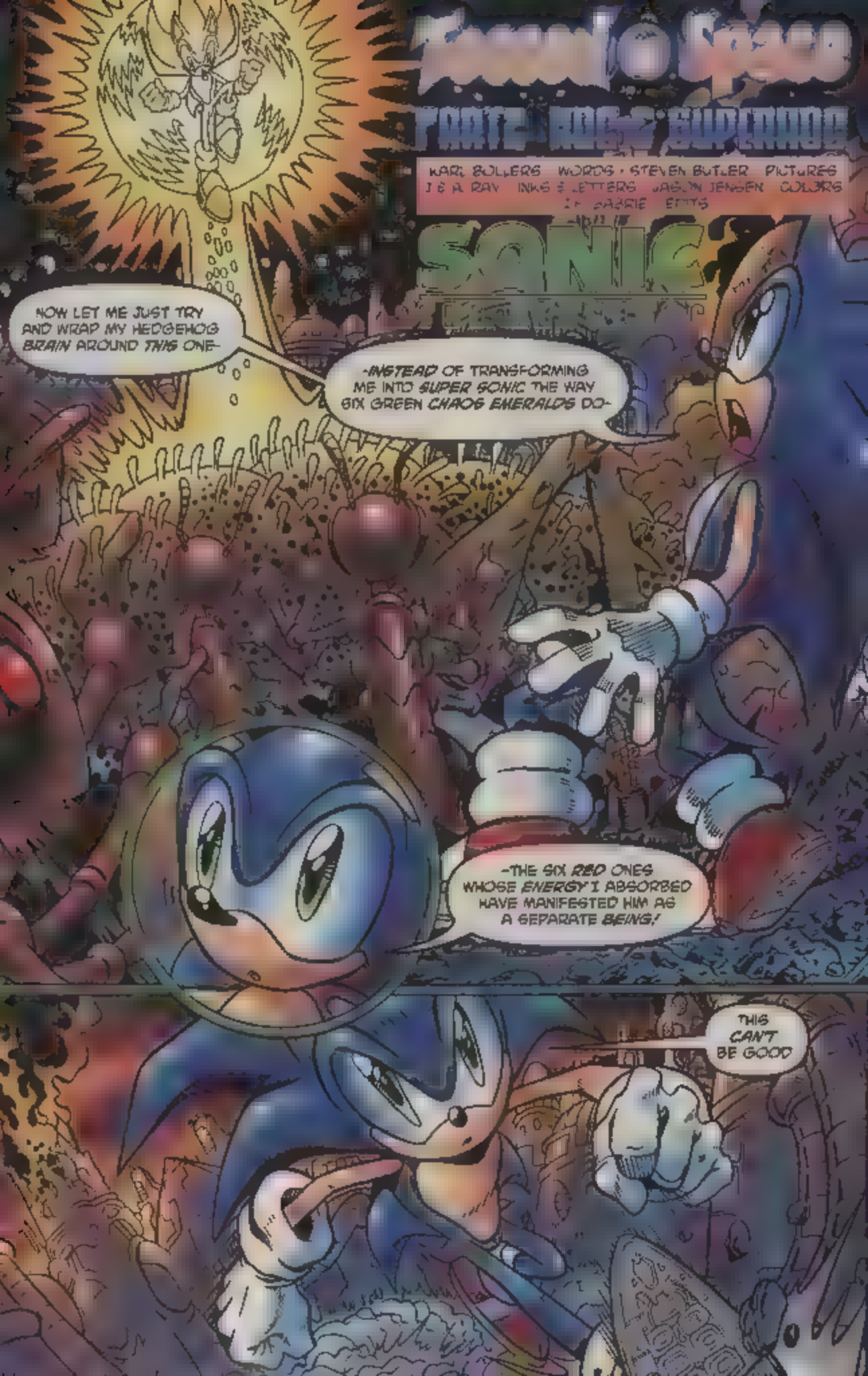
ON MOBIUS WHEN I ABSORB THE POWER OF 5 X GREEN CHAOS EMERALDS I TRANSFORM INTO SUPER SONIC

SIX RED ONES SHOULD DO THE SAME RIGHT?


SECONDS LATER AND FROM THE STREETS OF THE GREAT BOODEX CITY--
--THERE COMES A SHIMMERING ENERGY FILLED BEING--
- SUPER SONIC --
- WHO DESTROYS THE REZZILIANS THE POWER OF RED CHAOS
EACH AND EVERY LAST ONE -
SHUNT
INCLUDING THE QUEEN.
THOOM


BOY
I SURE WASN'T EXPECTING THAT TO HAPPEN
End of Part 1

T.J. THOMAS
STATESBORO, GA
MOHD FAIZAL
SELANGOR, MALAYSIA
If you'd like your drawing printed, please send it to:
"Sonic Fan Art #126"
c/o Archie Comic Publications, Inc.
P.O. Box #419
Mamaroneck, NY
10543-0419
SORRY...
ART WILL NOT BE RETURNED!
SONIC
FAN ART
DO I REALLY LOOK LIKE THAT
VINCENT BURGER
MANDEVILLE, LA
MARY LANE
PETERSBURGH, NY
DAWN BADGEROW
CHEBOYGAN, MI


Found in Space
PART 2 - HOG SUPERHOG
KARL BOLLERS WORDS · STEVEN BUTLER PICTURES
I & A RAY INKS & LETTERS JASON JENSEN COLORS
SONIC
NOW LET ME JUST TRY AND WRAP MY HEDGEHOG BRAIN AROUND THIS ONE-
-INSTEAD OF TRANSFORMING ME INTO SUPER SONIC THE WAY SIX GREEN CHAOS EMERALDS DO-
-THE SIX RED ONES WHOSE ENERGY I ABSORBED HAVE MANIFESTED HIM AS A SEPARATE BEING!
THIS CAN'T BE GOOD

THOOM

PLOW

"LOOKS LIKE I'M *RIGHT!* SUPER'S ON A TOTAL *RAMPAGE*—"

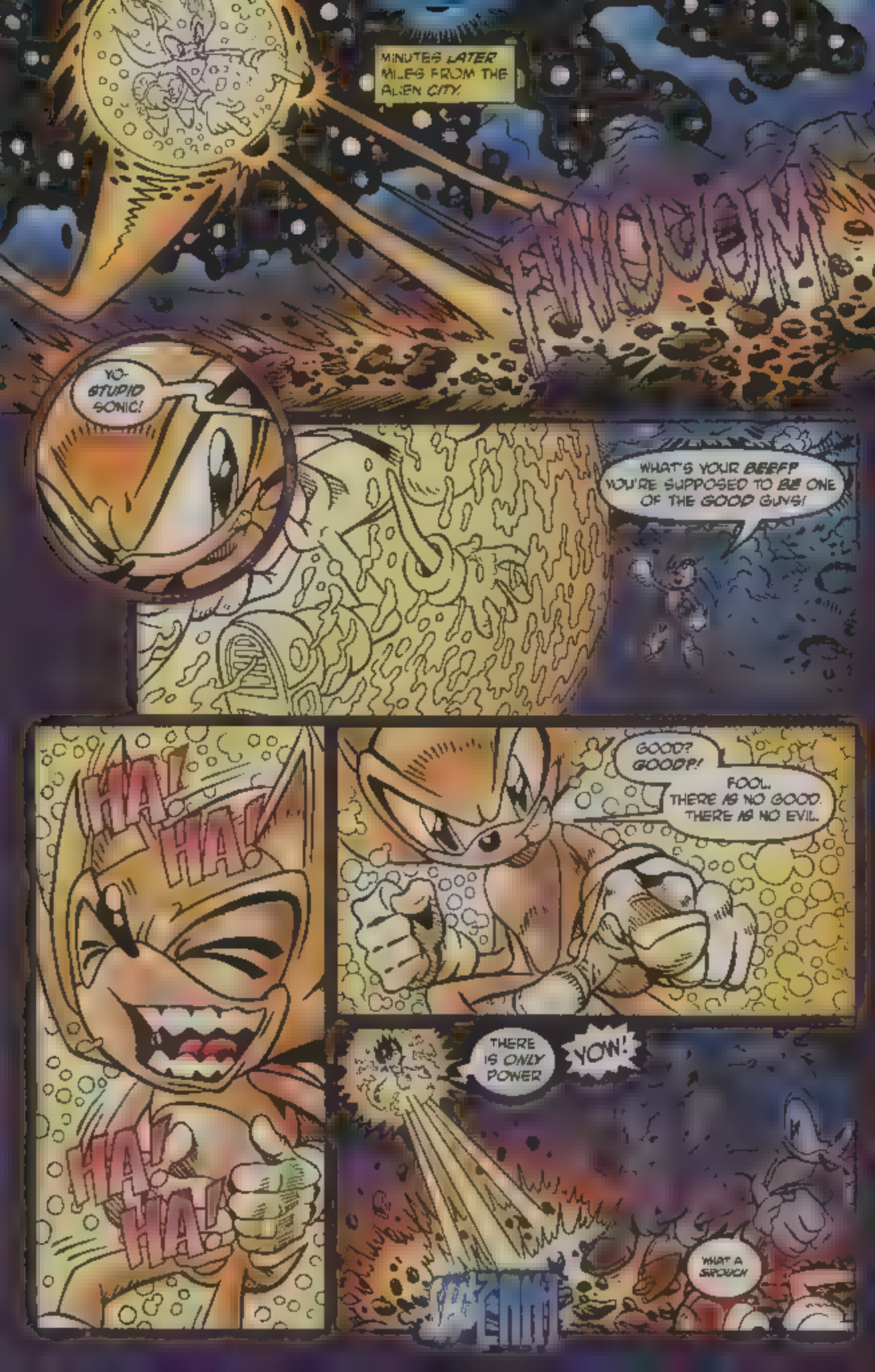
—AND DOESN'T GIVE A *WHIT* IF HE HURTS THESE DEFENSELESS ALIENS *WHILE* HE'S AT IT!

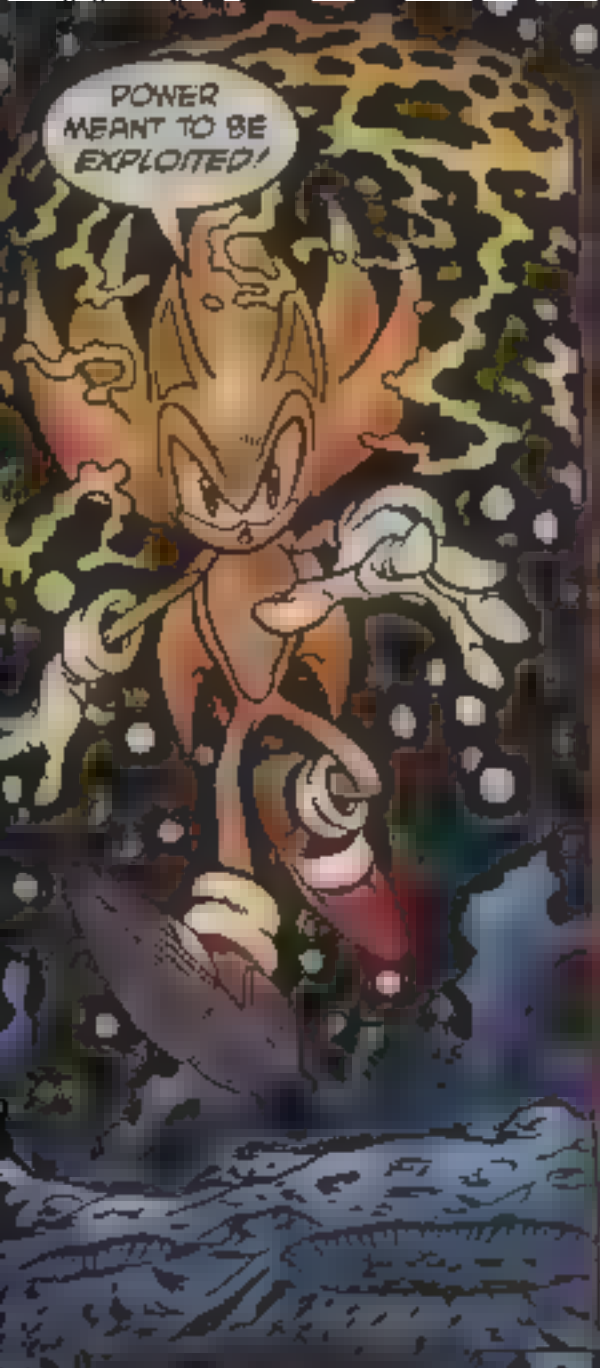
OH, NO!!

HELP US... PLEASE..

DON'T *WORRY*, DUDE I'LL GET YA *OUT* FROM UNDER *THERE!*

AS FOR THIS *NEW* MENACE I'VE *UNLEASHED*—

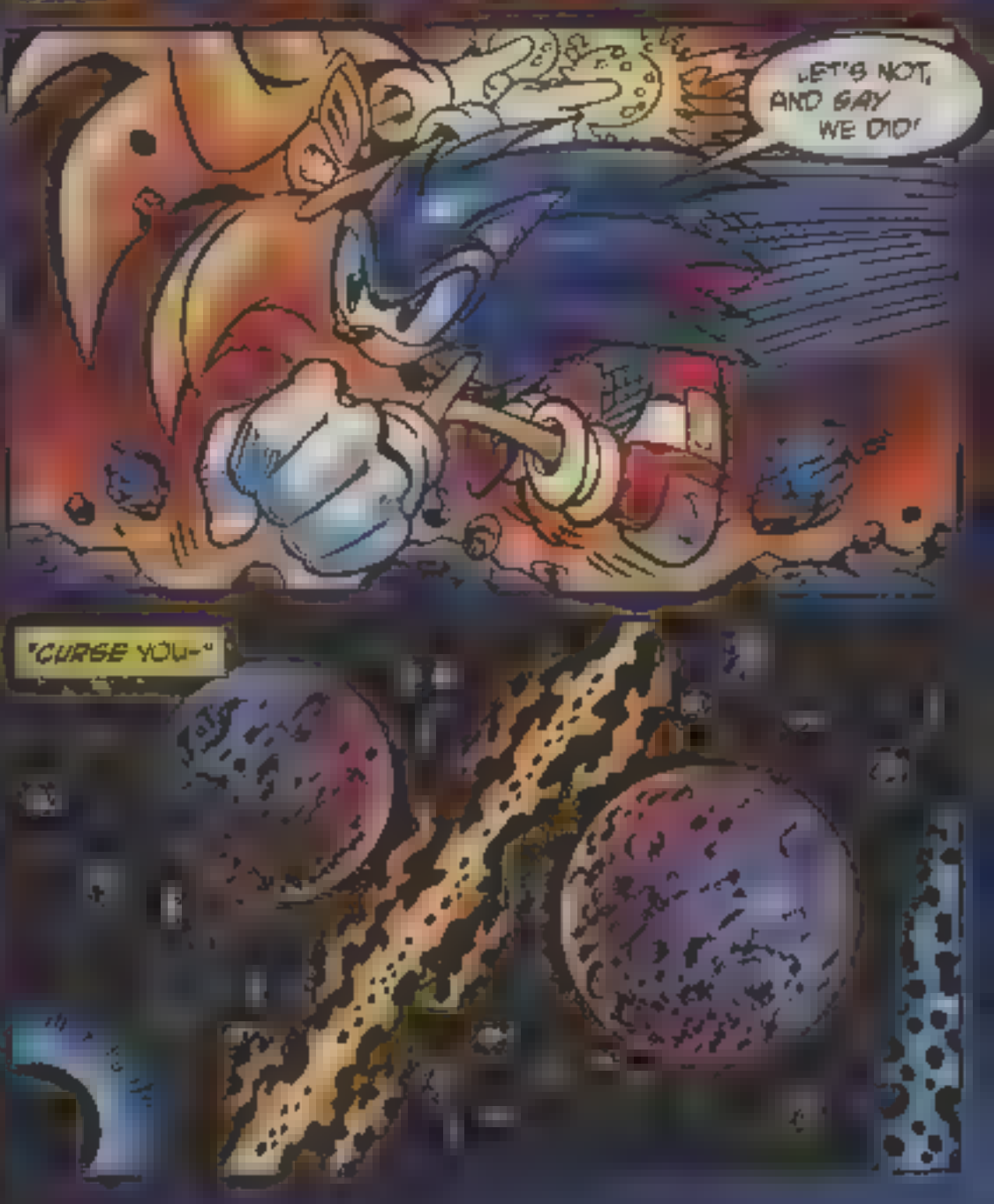

MINUTES LATER MILES FROM THE ALIEN CITY.
FWOOOM
YO- STUPID SONIC!
WHAT'S YOUR BEEFP YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE ONE OF THE GOOD GUYS!
HA! HA!
HA! HA!
GOOD? GOODP!
FOOL. THERE IS NO GOOD. THERE IS NO EVIL.
THERE IS ONLY POWER
YOW!
WHAT A SPROUCH


POWER MEANT TO BE EXPLOITED!

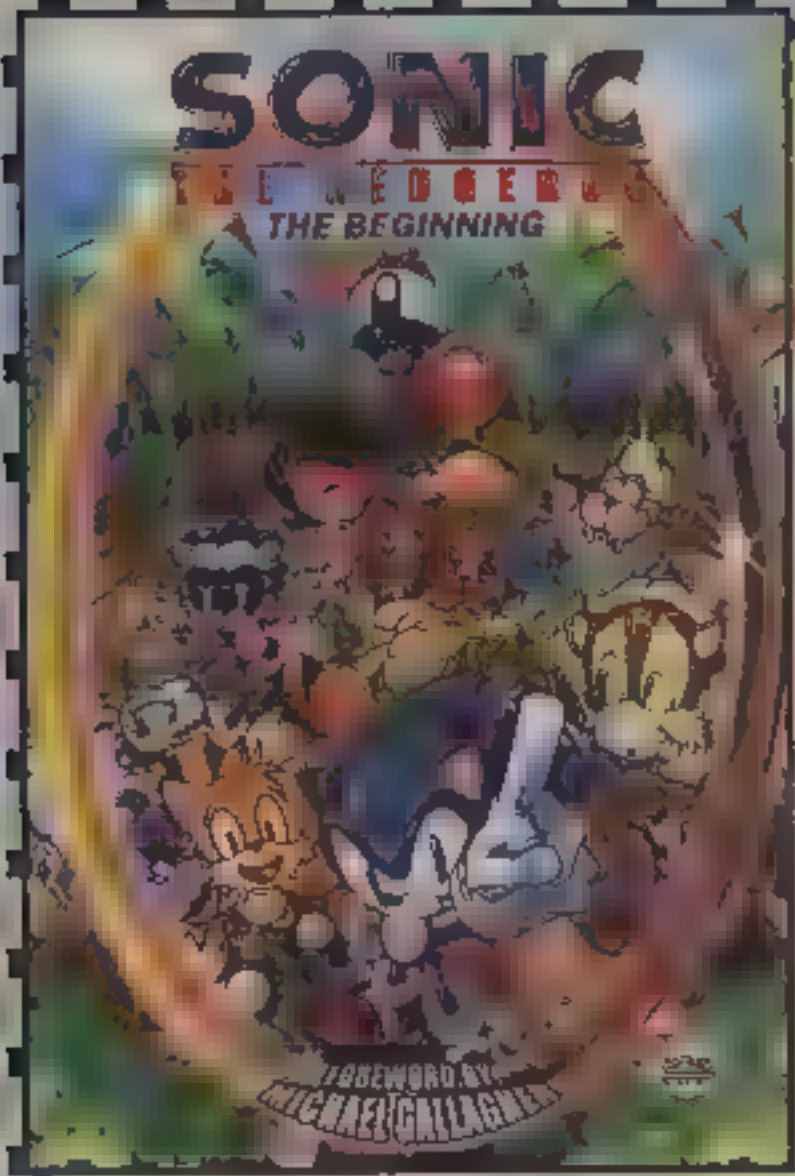
AND I KNOW JUST HOW TO DO THAT.

DESTROYING THIS WORLD'S MOONS–

–IS SURE TO JUMP START GLOBAL CHAOS!


LET'S NOT, AND SAY WE DID!
"CURSE YOU–"

YOU'RE GOING TO PAY FOR THAT!
THOOM
BIG TIME!
NOW, I'M READY TO PUT YOU OUT OF MY MISERY ONCE AND FOR-
NO!! WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME?!
SUPER SONIC'S EXISTENCE IS A TEMPORARY ONE AT BEST!
SEE YA, WOULDN'T WANNA BE YA!
THAT'S A SIDE OF ME I NEVER WANNA FACE AGAIN!
IT SEEMS THAT ON PLANET THORAXIA AS WELL AS ON SONIC'S NATIVE MOBIUS-
"TOSSED IN SPACE" CONTINUES NEXT MONTH



Please enclose $10.95 for this 96 page, perfect bound, full color, high-quality trade paperback!

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
THE BEGINNING Trade Paperback TPB-2

P.O. Box #573, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-0573
Tel. (914) 381-5155 Fax (914) 381-4016 www.archiecomics.com

NAME _____ AGE ____ MALE ☐ FEMALE ☐

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE _____ ZIP+4 _____

e-mail _____

DAYTIME PHONE # _____

☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD

SIGNATURE _____ EXP DATE ___ / ___ MO. YR.

Please make all orders payable to Archie Comic Publications, Inc. In U.S. funds by check, Money Order, Visa or Master Card. Every Canadian order includes GST and additional postage. AVAILABLE IN U.S. & CANADA ONLY. PLEASE ALLOW 3-4 WEEKS FOR DELIVERY.

Mail to:
ARCHIE COMIC PUBLICATIONS, INC.
ARCHIE'S MYSTERIES SUBSCRIPTION AVNM
P.O. Box #573, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-0573
www.archiecomics.com

OFFER EXPIRES OCTOBER 3, 2002

☐ YES! I HAVE ENCLOSED $6.75 (US/Canada) FOR MY 5-issue subscription.

☐ Yes! I'm a current subscriber

NAME _____ AGE ____ MALE ☐ FEMALE ☐

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP+4 _____ STATE

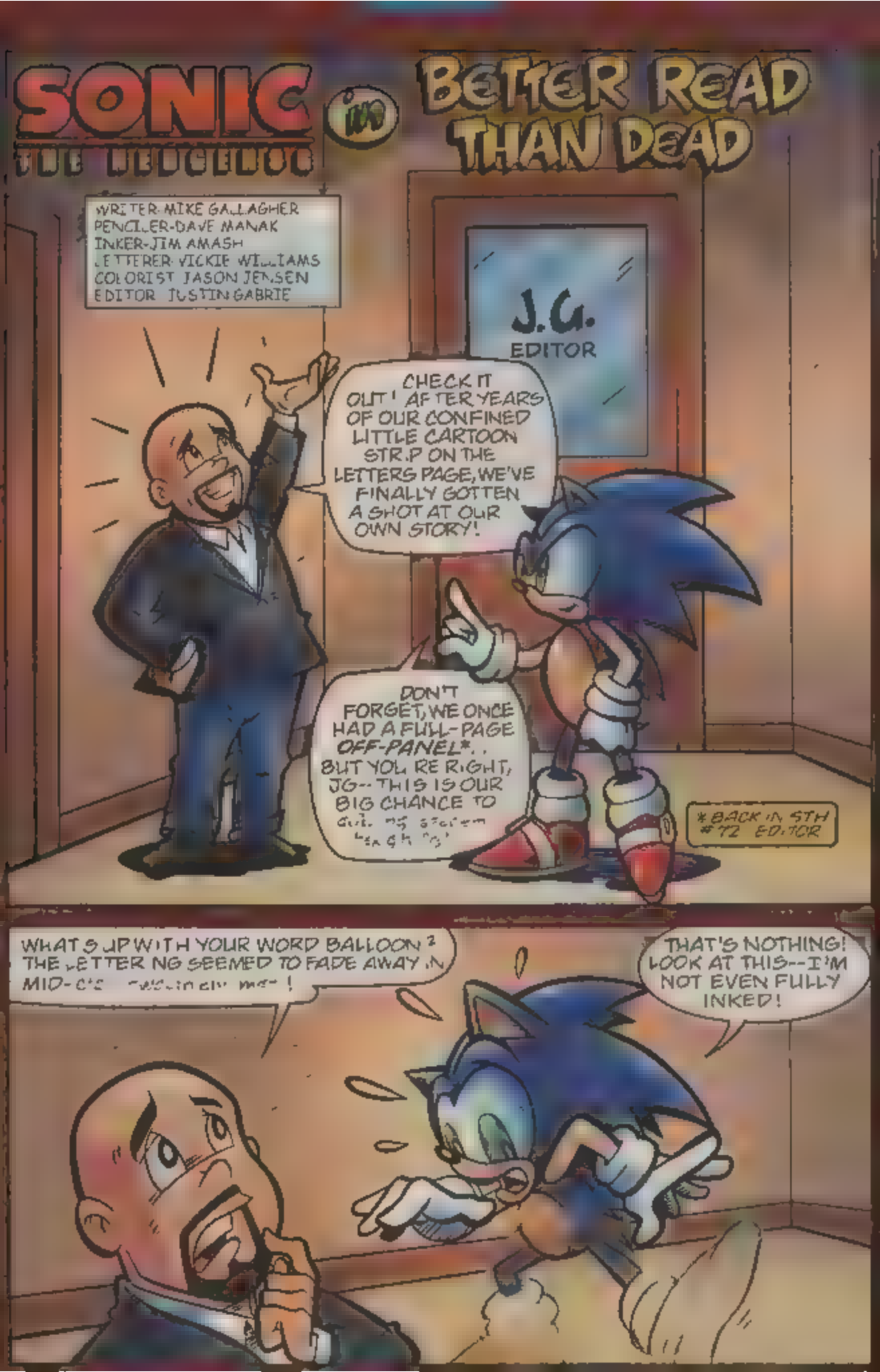
E-mail _____ DAYTIME PHONE # _____

☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD

SIGNATURE _____ EXP DATE ___ / ___ MO YR

Please make all orders payable to Archie Comic Publications, Inc. In U.S. funds by Check, Money Order, Visa or Mastercard. Every Canadian order includes GST and additional postage.
AVAILABLE IN U.S. & CANADA ONLY. Please allow 6-8 weeks for delivery.

465


SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
BETTER READ THAN DEAD
WRITER-MIKE GALLAGHER
PENCILER-DAVE MANAK
INKER-JIM AMASH
LETTERER-VICKIE WILLIAMS
COLORIST-JASON JENSEN
EDITOR-JUSTIN GABRIE
J.G. EDITOR
CHECK IT OUT! AFTER YEARS OF OUR CONFINED LITTLE CARTOON STRIP ON THE LETTERS PAGE, WE'VE FINALLY GOTTEN A SHOT AT OUR OWN STORY!
DON'T FORGET, WE ONCE HAD A FULL-PAGE OFF-PANEL*... BUT YOU'RE RIGHT, JG--THIS IS OUR BIG CHANCE TO
*BACK IN STH #72 EDITOR
WHAT'S UP WITH YOUR WORD BALLOON? THE LETTERING SEEMED TO FADE AWAY IN MID-
THAT'S NOTHING! LOOK AT THIS--I'M NOT EVEN FULLY INKED!

WHAT THE--?! YOU'RE NOTHING BUT A PENCIL DRAWING IN THIS SEQUENCE WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

I DON'T KNOW, BUT YOU'D BETTER [illegible]

WHOA!!! THE PANEL BORDERS AREN'T COMPLETE! I ALMOST FELL OFF THE PAGE! WHO OR WHAT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS?!

HAW, HAW, HAW! IT IS I, DEADLINE, MANIPULATOR OF CREATIVE TIME AND SCHEDULED SPACE, WITH MY "HORROR GLASS" I CAN CAUSE RETROACTIVE PRODUCTION DELAYS, THUS CAUSING COMIC BOOKS TO BECOME UNFINISHED, UNREADABLE AND ULTIMATELY UNSALABLE!

GASP! I DON'T BELIEVE IT!

BELIEVE IT, JG! LOOK AT ME! I'M BACK TO BEING A BLUE PENCIL SCRIBBLE! STOP HIM SOMEHOW!

FOOLS! YOU CAN'T STOP ME! TO PROVE IT, I SHALL DEVOLVE YOU EVEN FURTHER BACK - TO THE POINT WHEN THIS STORY WAS MERELY A PROPOSED IDEA SUBMITTED AS A SYNOPSIS!

ZOING!

FROM THE DESK OF MIKE GALLO

JUSTIN: Here's my idea for the OFF PANEL five pager - it opens with you and Sonk looking at the logo in the ULHC of the title page and being excited about having a whole OFF PANEL story. But strange things began happening. The lettering in word balloons is incomplete, figures aren't thoroughly inked, panel borders are unfinished, etc. Then the villain appears. His name is DEADLINE and he has the power to manipulate

Mike

THAT'S JUST A SAMPLE OF MY PERVASIVE PAPER POWER!
WOOP!
Whooo-Ha!
STAND BACK, JG! THIS DUDE'S ABOUT TO GET TOASTED!
HOLD STILL, YOU HOODED HOODLUM--THIS'LL ALL BE OVER IN A MILLI-SECOND.
ON THE CONTRARY, HEDGEHOG.
I INTEND TO RUB YOU OUT ... WITH AN ERASER!
EEEYAAAOH!
gasp! YOU FIEND!
RUB-RUB-RUB-
ERASER
HAW, HAW, HAW! PERHAPS NOW YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW WHY I'VE COME TO CONQUER YOUR LITTLE WORLD, MR. GABRIE!
YES, I WOULD--CONSIDERING THIS IS ONLY A FIVE PAGE STORY AND WE RE ALREADY AT THE END OF PAGE 3!

FOR YEARS NOW, I'VE BEEN SENDING YOU IDEAS AND DRAWINGS FOR STORIES IN YOUR COMICS... SONIC, KNUCKLES, SUPER SPECIALS, MINI-SERIES, ONE-SHOTS, GUEST APPEARANCES, CROSS-OVERS, NEW HEROES AND VILLAINS... BUT DID YOU EVER RESPOND?

NO!!

WAS THAT *YOU*? THE CLOWN WHO'S ALWAYS MAILING ME SUBMISSIONS WRITTEN IN CRAYON ON TORN CARDBOARD? YOU NEVER INCLUDE A RETURN ADDRESS! IT'S ARCHIE'S POLICY... IN FACT, ALL COMIC BOOK COMPANIES POLICY--TO TRASH ANYTHING THAT COMES IN LIKE THAT... IT'S COMMON POLICY!

YOU DARE CALL MY CONCEPTS *COMMON*!?!? THE BRILLIANT PLOT WHERE MAMMOTH MOGUL JOINS THE FLEA CIRCUS?

MY TWELVE PART BACK-UP ADVENTURE WHEN KNUCKLES DISCOVERS HIS REAL FATHER IS ELVIS?.

THE SIX-ISSUE SERIES WHEREIN ROBOTNIK DANCES WHILE KNOTHOLE BURNS?!?

THOSE ARE AWFUL IDEAS! I CAN'T THINK OF ONE *SONIC* CREATOR THAT I'VE DEALT WITH OVER THE YEARS WHO'D BE INTERESTED IN WORKING ON SUCH DRIVEL!

AHA! THAT'S THE CLUE I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR TO DEFEAT YOU, DEADLINE... CREATIVE INPUT!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN? I STILL HAVE TO TELL YOU ABOUT MY ORIGIN AND THE DISCOVERY OF MY HORROR-GLASS!

SORRY, PAL--YOUR TIME IS UP! *I'M* EDITOR OF THIS FEATURE AND WHAT I SAY GOES!

LIP N-NEVER I WON'T RELINQUISH CONTROL!

I CALL UPON EVERY WRITER, PENCILER, INKER, LETTERER, COLORIST AND EDITOR WHO'S EVER WORKED ON THIS COMIC BOOK TO OVERWHELM YOU, DEADLINE! I HATE TO BE A NAME DROPPER, BUT...

NOOOOOO! I CAN'T WITHSTAND THE ONSLAUGHT OF TALENT!

KEN PENDER
PATRICK SPAZIANTE
TIM VALENTINO
STEPHANIE VOZZO
PAM ECKLUND
MICHAEL GALLAGHER
FRANK GAGLIARDO
COLLEEN DURAN
DAN NAKROSIS
SCOTT PULOS
J.M. ABASH
DAVE MANAK
ANDREW PEPOY
VICKIE WILLIAMS
PAUL CASTIGLIA
ART MAWHINNEY
BARRY GROSSMAN
ANGEL DECESARE
MANNY GALAN
MARK BERNARDO
STEVEN BUTLER
JORGE PACHECO
RON LIMA
DARYL EDELMAN
FRY
JEFF POWELL
DAWN BEST
J. AXER
NELSON RIBEIRO
BENNY LEE
FRANK STROM
MICHAEL HIGGINS
SALEEM CRAWFORD
VICTOR GORELICK
TONY & AIMEE RAY
SUZANNE PADDOCK
IAN SCOTT
MIKE KANTEROVICH
BILL WHITE
JOHN DAGOSTINO
J. OLIVERAS
KEVIN TAYLOR
KYLE HUNTER
DANNY FINGEROTH
BOB WICKS
RICH KOSLOWSKI
NELSON ORTEGA
BRIAN THOMAS
ROBBIE DOLINN
LISA JERACH

POP!

HA! THAT'S THE END OF DEADLINE!

I'D SAY WE CAN CREDIT THAT TO YOU, JG!

WELL, IT'S TIME TO GET BACK TO THE LETTERS PAGE, SONIC!

SPEAKING OF WHICH... *

J.G. EDITOR

* LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK. SONIC GRAMMERS! WANT TO SEE ANOTHER OFF BEAT OFF PANEL STORY IN THE FUTURE? YOU KNOW THE DRILL - WRITE-ON!

THE END

SONIC CHECKLIST

SUBSCRIPTIONS (SON)

- ☐ **SONIC** (6-issue subscription) $8.75 ($7.50 - CAN)
- ☐ **SONIC** (10-issue subscription) $13.50 ($15.00 - CAN)

BACK ISSUES

SONIC & KNUCKLES COLLECTOR SETS

1996

☐ **SONIC** (HCS)
Issue No's 30-41... $23.99

1997

☐ **KNUCKLES** (KCS)
Issue No's 1-7... $11.99

1998

☐ **SONIC** (HCS)
Issue No's 54-65... $20.99

☐ **KNUCKLES** (KCS)
Issue No's 8-19... $20.99

1999

☐ **SONIC** (HCS)
Issue No's 66-77... $19.99

☐ **KNUCKLES** (KCS)
Issue No's 20-31... $19.99

2001

☐ **SONIC** (HCS)
Issue No's 90-102... $20.99

MINI-SERIES

☐ **SONIC'S FRIENDLY NEMESIS KNUCKLES** (SNK)
(3-issue mini-series)
$6.00 ($7.00 - CAN)

☐ **TAILS** (TLS)
(3-issue mini-series)
$6.00 ($7.00 - CAN)

☐ **SONIC QUEST "THE DEATH EGG SAGA"** (SDS)
(3-issue mini-series)
$6.00 ($7.00 - CAN)

☐ **KNUCKLES "THE DARK LEGION"** (ENC)
(3 issues #1 - #2 - #3)
$4.50 ($5.50 - CAN)

☐ **KNUCKLES "LOST PARADISE"** (ENC)
(3 issues #4 - #5 - #6)
$4.50 ($5.50 - CAN)

☐ **KNUCKLES "DARK VENGEANCE"** (ENC)
(3 issues #7 - #8 - #9)
$4.50 ($5.50 - CAN)

☐ **NIGHTS INTO DREAMS MINI-SERIES** (NID)
(3 issues #4 - #5 - #6)
$4.50 ($5.00 - CAN)

SPECIALS

(48 pg. Special) $3.00 ($3.50 - CAN)

- ☐ **SONIC & KNUCKLES** (SAK)
- ☐ **SONIC IN YOUR FACE** (BIF)
- ☐ **SONIC BLAST** (SOB)
- ☐ **SONIC CHAOTIX** (CHX)
- ☐ **SONIC & KNUCKLES MECHA MADNESS** (SMM)
- ☐ **SONIC LIVE!** (SLS)
- ☐ **#1 BATTLE ROYAL** (BSO1)
- ☐ **#2 BRAVE NEW WORLD** (BSO2)
- ☐ **#3 SONIC FIRSTS** (BSO3)
- ☐ **#4 RETURN OF THE KING** (BSO4)
- ☐ **#5 SONIC KIDS** (BSO5)
- ☐ **#6 SONIC DIRECTOR'S CUT** (BSO6)
- ☐ **#7 IMAGE/SONIC CROSSOVER** (BSO7)
- ☐ **#8 SALLY MOON** (BSO8)
- ☐ **#9 SONIC KIDS#2** (BSO9)
- ☐ **#10 SONIC/SABRINA** (BSO10)

SONIC SUPER SPECIALS (SSO)

(48 pg. Specials) $2.50 ($3.00 - CAN)

- ☐ **#11 SONIC CO-STARS**
- ☐ **#12 TURN ABOUT HEROS**
- ☐ **#13 DREAMCAST ADAPTATION**
- ☐ **#14 SONIC STEW**
- ☐ **#15 BATTLE WITH NAUGUS**

TRADE PAPERBACK

☐ **SONIC "FIRSTS"** (SGN)
$5.00 ($6.00 - CAN)

OFFER EXPIRES OCTOBER 31, 2003

ARCHIE COMIC PUBLICATIONS, INC.
SONIC CHECKLIST
P.O. Box #573, Mamaroneck, NY 10543-0573 Tel (914) 381-5155 Fax (914) 381-4015
www.archiecomics.com

NAME _____ AGE _____ MALE ☐ FEMALE ☐

ADDRESS _____ e-mail _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP+4 _____ - _____

DAYTIME PHONE # _____

TALLY YOUR ORDER HERE

$ _____ + $ _____ = $ _____
SUBSCRIPTION SUBTOTAL + BACK ISSUES SUBTOTAL = TOTAL AMOUNT

☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD
CARD NUMBER _____ EXP. DATE ___/___ (MO. YR.)
SIGNATURE _____

Please make all orders payable to Archie Comic Publications, Inc. in U.S. funds by Check, Money Order, Visa or Mastercard. Canadian orders include GST and additional postage. **AVAILABLE IN U.S. & CANADA ONLY.** Please allow 6-8 weeks for delivery.

1-861

SONIC-GRAMS

THIS JUST IN!

Technology

Great word, huh? We are marveled and terrified by what it creates and what it destroys... not that I want to get overly philosophical about it, but I do have a point to this. You see, because of technology, I can contact all my freelancers with one single e-mail, download their artwork via FTP for approvals and read fan opinions via message boards. Cutting the time from months and weeks to minutes and seconds, creating instant gratification. I remember a time when the phone was the only way to reach a freelancer (one at a time, of course) and when artwork had to be mailed in for approval (faxes were never great to look at and would only be used for approval under the worst deadline disasters). And, of course, fan mail only came one way: snail mail. It would literally take 2 to 4 months after an issue hit newsstands for us to know if people liked it or not. It drove me mad... mad, I say. But now all that has changed with a touch of a button. Now I'm reading reactions from fans on the day the issue is sold. Pretty amazing. So keep your fan mail coming, because I for one, appreciate reading them. Catch you on the flip...

Ian

Well, gang, it's been two months since we had the space to print your letters (but after the last two issues of stories, I'm sure you understand why). To try to make up for it, our letters page this month has been extended to two pages. So without skipping a beat, let's get to your latest comments ...

Note: Due to the overwhelming amount of e-mail and snail mail, it is impossible for us to reply personally to each and every message. However, your opinions are important to us and each message will be read. Also, due to space limitations, some correspondence may be edited.
Thanks for understanding!

Send Letters and E-mail To:
SONIC-GRAMS # 126
C/o Archie Comic Publications, Inc.
P.O. Box #419
Mamaroneck, NY 10543-0419
E-MAIL:
Sonic@keypenders.com
WEBSITE: www.archiecomics.com
SEGA WEBSITE: www.sega.com

COMING ATTRACTIONS

No. 127

WITH THE MAILBOXES OVERFLOWING, HOW ABOUT WE CHECK OUT WHAT YOU GUYS HAD TO SAY IN REGARDS TO OUR LATEST ISSUES:

Dear Sonic Crew,

I will start off by saying I enjoy this comic, very much. Great job by all the staff. Now, to the point: why I'm writing to you.

As we all know, in issue #123, Sonic chose Sally, but why? I really would have liked to have Sonic chose Mina, but I can't change it. And I felt sad when Mina took that bullet, that was just so much emotion. But back to my question, why Sally and not Mina? **Cloud_strife41**

You weren't the only reader who asked that question, Cloud. Far from it. The problem is, Mina fans haven't been as vocal in letting us know how they feel. The Sally fans have in expressing in no uncertain terms that their gal, Sal, is the one-and-only meant for Sonic. That's what the majority of Sonic fandom wanted, and we aim to please. However, though you mostly get what you want, we always have a few twists up our sleeves to keep things interesting. The last two issues and future issues to come will illustrate what we mean... heh, heh, heh.

Dear Sonic-Grams,

Just for the record, you guys are awesome! Keeping Sonic alive through the comics was just pure genius. Ever since they took the SAT AM cartoon off TV, I had to rely on the comic books for current upkeep.

First off, that was a pretty good spin on bringing Nack the Weasel back, once again, PURE GENIUS! I still wonder where he ran off to. Anyway, I must say, that was pretty sad of what happened to Mina the Mongoose, sad indeed. Oh well, that just means that Sonic and Sally are on good terms again, right? I still wondered about what King Max was negotiating with the other weasel, a mystery indeed.

Second, on the Knuckles part, is it possible that you guys can bring back Enerjak and Kragok? Third, with the third part of the comic, interesting plot, but I'm still wondering about what happened to the Robians. And lastly, a tribute to you guys! The art work is getting better by the issue and the plots are just too great. But anyway. What is this thing about Sonic X?

Anyway, you guys are doing awesome. Keep up the good work!

Sincerely,
NeoRavencroft

Sonic and Sally are on good terms... she just thinks he's dead. But as you know, Sonic will be back on Mobius soon enough. How and why will be revealed in Sonic #129 & #130. Let's just say for now that things aren't the same when he returns. With regards to Knuckles, he will also see a return in Sonic #130, as he becomes more closely involved with the politics of the Kingdom of Acorn. Another future that should bring excitement is MOBIUS: 25 YEARS LATER. The new continuing storyline starting in Sonic #131 will show us what's up with all our favorite characters as full grown adults. As for the Robians, well, there's more to that story than meets the eye. Prepare for more revelations about it in Sonic #129.

Dear Sonic-Grams:

I am pleased to say that the past few issues have been top quality! I have been reading Sonic Comics ever since issue #13 and I think of myself as a hard-core Sonic fan. I've got the shirts, the games, the figurines, etc., to show my Sonic appreciation. I am also sad to say that while I enjoy your comic, I still have a problem with how things have been going through the years.

My first complaint is your lack of critical views in your comic. I personally know several Sonic Comic fans in my area who send letters of complaint and criticism who are never printed and while I believe you receive many letters, I also believe some people out there may have complaints of their own. It seems as though you people can't face criticism.

The second issue I wish to attend to is this new 3 story format you have adopted. Please nix it. The stories are too brief, underdeveloped, and achieve the opposite of what you guys said you would give, and that is more characters. Frequently, your stories contain the same characters (Mina, basic freedom fighters, Vector, etc.) who, in my opinion are interesting and important, but far too overused. It's like watching an episode of a sitcom, you have the same cast of characters with a few new one-time characters here and there. I would like to see stories based more around the less seen characters instead of once-in-a-lifetime cameos of characters like Lupe, Harry the cabdriver, and Nic the Weasel. I also would like to see some new characters.

My third issue directly affects you. People know I read your comics and so some of them go to read your comic to see why I enjoy them. These people are not just casual comic readers, sometimes and they have read other great brand comics like Dark Horse or Marvel Comics. All of them, no lie, have said your comic ... wasn't very good, to put it lightly; they then ask why I like your comic. I have to reassure them that the past few issues have been flukes and not the excellent quality they usually are. Lastly, I must speak on this issue of anime. I enjoy anime, but I don't feel that a full anime change is necessary. My favorite art is more like the art in the issue with Antoine and his father (issue #112). The style of cover art should change, too. I didn't buy a magazine, I bought a comic book! Please bring back the action covers drawn by your all-time best artist, Spaz.

Other than my complaints, good job! One more question is left.

I remember a letter was sent asking about Cream the Rabbit a long time ago--do you know who she is now? If not, you should get a copy of Sonic Advance 2. I have a copy, it's great!

Sincerely, Jarvis White,
Pseudo Sonic Team,
Founder

Thanks for a great letter, Jarvis, and I sincerely mean that. You made some valid points without getting nasty and/or personal. First off: the lack of criticism. Are we perfect? You gotta be kidding! Far from it! Even so, when we do warrant our lumps, just writing "I didn't like Sonic issue whatever" or, the latest issue stank out loud" doesn't justify printing those comments. If a reader doesn't like something, they need to explain WHY they didn't like it in a thoughtful manner, as you did. We personally welcome criticism because it helps us understand your likes and dislikes, and what we can do to make SONIC a better book in the future. Now to your second point: the format. The jury is still out on that one, and we're going to keep tinkering with it on an issue-by-issue basis. What confuses me is your disconnect between complaining we don't show enough of certain characters due to lack of space and your

Cover this month by Spaz, Ribeiro and the Rays.
Frontispiece by J. Axer. Letters page design by Joe Pep.

request for new characters. How do we make someone like you happy with that conflicting agenda to contend with? Finally, your friends' comparison of SONIC to other companies' titles is like comparing apples to oranges. Each have a particular sweet taste, but if you're only in the mood for one type of fruit, you're not going to like the other as much. An example would be that someone who reads a horror comic or a superhero comic is not necessarily predisposed to even read a SONIC comic, let alone enjoy one. Personally, there are some popular superhero comics I haven't read in years. Though I was a big fan at one point, it just doesn't interest me anymore. Does that make it a bad comic? No, just one that doesn't appeal to me. Besides, in the end, it's not whether your friends enjoy the book, but whether you do that really counts.

Dear Sonic-Grams,

Issue 123 blew me away— in more than one way.

The first story was amazing! I'd count "Heart Held Hostage" parts 1 & 2 as the best story in your comic ever. The story was interesting, and the characterizations were right-on. It's been a long time since I've really felt the characters were acting like "real people", instead of just plot devices. This story not only did that, but the depth of the characters was incredible, far deeper than even in the "good old days". (Or, even the show, if my memory serves me.)

The art, too, was beyond belief. Axer is just as good as Spaz, and considering how good Spaz is, that's saying a lot.

The Knuckles story was well colored, but otherwise mediocre (though that's better than actually being bad, I'm just not into rereading old stories in condensed form).

But the final story... What in the world were you thinking?!

This is the story we (as well as the Freedom Fighters) have been waiting for since issue 0! The deroboticization of Uncle Chuck, and nearly all the other Robians. And you only gave it FIVE PAGES?!?! ...

I mean, really...! This should have been the issue 125 "spectacular" story. (Although, actually, I think the idea that something momentous should happen every twenty-five issues is rather ridiculous. Just celebrate in Sonic-Grams, and maybe replace one of the back stories with some sort of special feature. Save the momentous happenings for when they are most appropriate in the story.)

On the other hand, the art was good (I keep forgetting just how good Art Mawhinney is), and, for such a short story, the writing was good.

Oh, and it was cool seeing the Wolf Pack derobotiozed and reunited...

So, in conclusion, try to make more stories with the depth of "Heart Held Hostage", but try to pace your stories more carefully.

You have a cool cast of characters, a cool world, and an extremely talented group of artists. You have a lot going for you. Try not to blow it.

Thanks for listening.
Stay frosty—
Philip Stupakewicz

See? Even when someone has some complaints, they still like what we're doing for the most part. Regarding the Knuckles story we understand you were looking for something new and fresh rather than a rehash of what went on before, however there are new readers who jump n the book every issue who have not read all the Knuckles stories ever printed. Sometimes it's necessary to do those kinds of stories every once in a while to bring everyone up to date... especially now that a chapter of Knuckles' life has closed and another one begins. So for those who think we don't listen to you, I hope we've finally buried that complaint once and for all. Your comments do matter, and we certainly feel anyone who paid cover price is more than welcome to sound off. Whether you give up praises or complaints, you do so because you care about this comic, the characters and the stories they provide. (If you didn't, you wouldn't bother, right?) That's to us is the best compliment we can ever have.

Dear Sonic-Grams,

I have been a fan of Sonic the Hedgehog since the second Sonic the Hedgehog game, and then since issue 44 (of course I've missed a few issues in between 44 & 123).

Just so you know issue 123's main story was very predictable. You could tell from the cover that Sonic was going to pick Sally.

Another thing, in the last Robian story if you relate it to the main story of issue 118, you could come to the conclusion that the aliens that abducted Sonic, Tails, Robotnik, and Snively, might be conducting another experiment.

Besides all that, I have a few questions.

1) In Super Special #15 it said on the question page that it was the final S.S.S. but, I've heard of a super special that takes place 20 yrs in the future. So which is right, that Super Special #15 is the final super special or is the 20 yrs later super special coming out soon?

2) If Knux is dead then how did his daughter come from the future?

3) I know this question should have been asked earlier but if the former Robo-Robotnik is from another zone then why hasn't Zonic the zone cop taken him back to his zone?

Ciao. **JOSEPH SCHMIDT**

Joseph, 1) The "Knuckles Twenty Years Later" storyline was slated to be in SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #16. However, it was not to be. We have changed it to be the new feature starting in SONIC #131 called "Mobius: 25 Years Later." Though it focuses on the Knuckles family in the beginning (as the original story), this continuing format allows us to focus on all the Mobian characters, not just Knuckles, which you'll see in future installments. 2) This is a comic. Does any main character ever truly die in comics, especially since writers can always find a way to bring them back? 3) There is a reason, just one that can't be discussed yet as it is a plot for a future story. You can take guesses as to what that reason is. The one closest to the reason why will have a special mention in these very pages. Until then, you'll just have to wait until the story comes out.

And that's it for this month, gang. We'll see you in 30.